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ÿÿÿR142
U A5541)1zBTUIVBYL
ÿAAM-HAIG'''' URGENTÿ
ÿBY BOB HORTONÿ
WASHINGTON, NOV 3, REUTER -- PRESIDENT REAGAN AND SECRETARY OF STATE ALEXANDER HAIG SAID TODAY INTERNAL ''BACKBITING'' WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATION WAS DAMAGING THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN POLICY.
THE PRESIDENT PRAISED MR HAIG, WHO CHARGED IN A SEPARATE STATEMENT THAT AN UNNAMED TOP WHITE HOUSE AIDE WAS WAGING A ''GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN'' AGAINST HIM.
IN AN UNUSUAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DISSENSION WITHIN ADMINISTRATION RANKS, STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN DEAN FISCHER CONFIRMED MR HAIG HAD TOLD COLUMNIST JACK ANDERSON: ''THIS DAMAGES MY ABILITY TO CARRY OUT THE PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN POLICY.''ÿ
MORE 1514 EST
ÿÿÿR146
R A5595)2zBTUIVCYN
ÿAAM-HAIG 2 WASHINGTON (R-142 ... FOREIGN POLICY.'')ÿ
MR HAIG SPOKE IN AN INTERVIEW WITH ANDERSON PUBLISHED TODAY OF ''SABOTAGE TO THE PRESIDENT'' BY SOME OF HIS OWN PEOPLE, ADDING: ''IT'S JUST MIND-BOGGLING.''
THE STATE DEPARTMENT DID NOT IDENTIFY THE AIDE WHOM MR HAIG HAD IN MIND, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN RECURRING REPORTS OF FRICTION BETWEEN HIM AND NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER RICHARD ALLEN.
MR REAGAN SCOFFED AT ANOTHER PUBLISHED REPORT LAST WEEK THAT MR HAIG WAS ON THE WAY OUT, TO BE REPLACED BY AN ADMINISTRATION RIVAL, DEFENSE SECRETARY CASPAR WEINBERGER.
THE PRESIDENT TOLD REPORTERS AT THE WHITE HOUSE TODAY: ''WE HAVE A GOOD SECRETARY OF STATE, I THINK THE BEST WE HAVE HAD IN A LONG TIME. HE IS WELL THOUGHT OF ABROAD.
''THE ONLY THING I CAN DO TO STOP THE BACKBITING IS TO CONVINCE ALL OF YOU THAT THERE IS NO FOUNDATION TO ANY OF THESE RUMORS, AND I WOULD APPEAL TO YOUR PATRIOTISM BECAUSE ... THEY ARE DESTRUCTIVE OF OUR DEALINGS WORLDWIDE.''
MR REAGAN SAID HIS FOREIGN POLICY ''IS SET BACK EVERY TIME CLIPPINGS GO OUT FROM EMBASSIES TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS AT HOME THAT WOULD LEAD THEM TO BELIEVE THERE IS SOME DISARRAY HERE.''ÿ
MORE 1524 EST

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